

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 361

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:398(K)(1)(a), relative to accident reports; to provide for a  
3 definition of a news-gathering organization; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 32:398(K)(1)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §398. Accident reports; when and to whom made; information aid; fees for copies;  
7 fees for accident photographs

8 \* \* \*

9 K.(1)(a) The reports required by this Section, and the information contained  
10 in the reports, shall be confidential, shall be exempt from the provisions of R.S. 44:1  
11 et seq., and shall be made available only: to the parties to the accident, parents or  
12 guardians of a minor who is a party to the accident, and insurers of any party which  
13 is the subject of the report; to the succession representatives of those parties, or to  
14 the attorneys of the parties or succession representatives; or to a news-gathering  
15 organization that requests documents related to the accident. Upon request, accident  
16 reports shall be made available to the above-enumerated persons within seven  
17 working days following the completion of the accident investigation. For the  
18 purposes of this Subsection: "News-gathering organization" means any of the  
19 following:

20 (i) A newspaper, or news publication, printed or electronic, of current news  
21 and intelligence of varied, broad, and general public interest, having been published  
22 for a minimum of one year and that can provide documentation of membership in a  
23 statewide or national press association, as represented by an employee thereof who

3                   (ii) A radio broadcast station, television broadcast station, cable television  
4                   operator, or wire service as represented by an employee thereof who can provide  
5                   documentation of his employment.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.